

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY H:DGELBER;JCP

APPROVED BY H:KBJENKINS

D:TICE (SUBS)

S/S - RGAMBLE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID

SUBJECT: FY 77 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS

1. HOUSE-SENATE CONFEREES ARE SCHEDULED TO MEET WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON TO RECONCILE THE DIFFERENCES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE FY 77 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS BILLS. PASSMAN HOPES TO COMPLETE WORK ON THE CONFERENCE REPORT BY FRIDAY. SOME DELAY MAY OCCUR BECAUSE OF EFFORTS BY CONGRESSMAN CRANE TO HAVE THE HOUSE CONFEREES INSTRUCTED TO FIGHT TO RETAIN THE EXPLICIT PROHIBITION ON AID TO ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE HE HAD INSERTED IN THE HOUSE VERSION. WE ARE WORKING TO DEFLECT CRANE. SIZE OF SENATE VOTE FOR THE COMPROMISE YOU ARRANGED WITH JIM ALLEN AND FACT THAT HARRY BYRD VOTED FOR IT ARE STRONG ARGUMENTS IN OUR FAVOR. WE HAVE ENLISTED EL CEDERBURG WHO ASSURED US TODAY THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO DELETE CRANE IN CONFERENCE, BY RELYING ON THE ALLEN COMPROMISE.

2. IN ADDITION TO PRESERVING THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN PACKAGE, OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY CONFERENCE ISSUES ARE:

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A. FUNDING LEVELS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ASSOCIATION (IDA) -- THE \$375 MILLION IN THE SENATE VERSION, AGAINST THE \$320 MILLION ALLOWED IN THE HOUSE BILL -- THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS;

B. OBTAINING THE FUNDING LEVELS FOR SECURITY SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE IN THE SENATE BILL (\$1,745.5 MILLION, TO \$1,674.0 IN THE HOUSE BILL). THIS IS WHERE YOUR FUNDING FOR ZAIRE, ZAMBIA AND BOTSWANA IS LOCATED.

C. ELIMINATING THE SENATE REQUIREMENT (NOT ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE) FOR "PRIOR APPROVAL" BY THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES BEFORE ANY FUNDS CAN BE OBLIGATED FOR PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES NOT SPECIFICALLY APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEES.

3. WE ARE CONCENTRATING ON THESE OBJECTIVES. A LETTER TO SENATORS INOUE AND BROOKE AND REPRESENTATIVES PASSMAN AND SHRIVER COVERING SOUTHERN AFRICAN, IDA AND PRIOR APPROVAL ISSUES HAS BEEN CLEARED AND IS AWAITING THE PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE. SECRETARY SIMON HAS ALREADY SENT A LETTER TO THESE FOUR MEN UNDERSCORING TREASURY'S SUPPORT FOR IDA AND THE OTHER INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. I AM CALLING SEVERAL OF THE HOUSE CONFEREES IN SUPPORT OF OUR OBJECTIVES. JENKINS AND HIS STAFF ARE WORKING WITH OTHER CONFEREES, AS ARE PARKER, MURPHY AND THE AID TEAM.

4. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO BUILD SUPPORT ON THE SENATE SIDE TO DEFEAT THE HOUSE PROHIBITION ON SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO URUGUAY.

5. OUR PROGNOSIS: WE ARE OPTIMISTIC ON THE SOUTHERN AFRICA PACKAGE, SECURITY SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE, IDA, AND PESSIMISTIC ON "PRIOR APPROVAL" AND URUGUAY. ROBINSON

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